

12 March 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

In response to a request from the DCI, I developed the following reconstruction of how the Agency came to submit a detailed flight plan over Cuba at the 10 September meeting.

I have briefed the DCI along the following lines and he seems satisfied with the account:

At a Special Group meeting on 23 August 1962, General Taylor became convinced that our proposals for Far Eastern overflights represented a modification of plans approved at a 20 July Special Group meeting. During the course of the discussion, General Taylor requested a detailed briefing by experts on the TACKLE flights and the Meo re-supply flights and said that in the future he wanted all overflights submitted in the same format for his presentation to higher authority.

The above remark about all overflights is contained in an Action Memorandum, Number A-36, of 23 August addressed to the DD/R from the DDCI. General Taylor's remark was interpreted by DD/R as a request for the submission of tracks on Cuban overflights from that date forward. As a practical matter, the first occasion for actual presentation of such a track came on 10 September and the need to prepare such a track was reinforced by a telephone call from Tom Parrott on the morning of 10 September asking specific questions about our plans and intentions with regard to overflights of Cuba.

Walter Elder

cc: DDCI
Executive Director
IG